

Friday, November 12, 2021  
9:00am–5:00pm CST

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# 1-DAY TRAINING: Advocating for Individuals and Families Living with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD)



**Online**  
**Via Zoom**

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**Purchase tickets at**  
**<https://bit.ly/FASDinAR>**

# **Advocating for Individuals and Families Living with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD)**

This all-day training will provide an overview of diagnosis, ramifications, interventions and prevention of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD). The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that 2–5% of U.S. children have FASD. To put this in perspective, FASD surpasses the prevalence of down syndrome, cerebral palsy, or autism spectrum disorders. Estimates are that the prevalence of FASD among children in foster care approaches 70%. Since FASD is widely misdiagnosed and undiagnosed many children and adults with FASD are, likewise, never diagnosed as having secondary neurodevelopmental disabilities.

The Arkansas Supreme Court has approved 6.25 hours of continuing legal education (CLE) for members of the Arkansas Bar. Approval for continuing education for healthcare professionals from University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences is pending.

FASD is an umbrella term describing the range of effects that can occur in an individual who is exposed to alcohol in utero. These effects may include physical, mental, behavioral, and/or learning disabilities with lifelong implications. Children with FASD need early and ongoing intervention to provide intervention strategies and to prevent secondary disabilities. For example, the inability to read social clues may lead to delays in development, decision-making, impulse control, and learning which for many results in school failure, behavioral and mental health challenges, and involvement in the juvenile and adult justice system.

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## Introductions and Comments:

- Tom Masseau, Executive Director of Disability Rights Arkansas
- David Deere, Co-Director of Specialty Diagnostic Resource Center (A program affiliated with AR Regional LEND and University of Central Arkansas) & Board Member of Arkansas None for Nine
- Tom Donaldson, President of the National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, Moderator

## Confirmed Speakers:

**Dr. Kenneth Jones, M.D. and Dr. Christina Chambers, Ph.D.  
University of California at San Diego.**

(Dr. Kenneth Jones is considered the father of fetal alcohol syndrome discovering this syndrome in 1973).

**Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder: Prevalence, Recognition, Stigma and Its Relevance to the Juvenile Justice System.**

**Dr. Larry Burd, Ph.D.**

**Director of the North Dakota Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Clinic**

**Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders and The Legal System**

This presentation will cover the impact of FASD for Juveniles and adults in the legal system including from the initial encounter through sentencing.

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## Confirmed Speakers:

**William Edwards, Deputy Public Defender, Los Angeles County Public Defenders Office, Mental Health Court with John Williams and Tonya Willingham (Federal Public Defenders Office in Little Rock)**

### **Connecting the Dots: How to obtain the maternal alcohol history of the birth mother through interviews and documentation of records**

This talk will discuss the case of *Anderson v. Kelley*, 938 F. 3d 949 (8th Circuit) and the stigma and difficulty in obtaining what is often the missing piece of a FASD diagnosis. The talk will help you connect the dots in examples of how to interview the birth mother and how to obtain the critical evidence through records, documentation and interviews of family members.

**Dr. Paul Connor, Ph.D. University of Washington, Seattle**

### **Neuropsychological Assessment of FASD in the Adult Criminal Justice System: Diagnosis, Profiles, and Patterns**

This session will discuss the process of assessment of cognitive functioning when diagnosing FASD in adult populations, especially those involved in the justice system.

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## Confirmed Speakers:

**Diane Smith Howard, Esquire**  
**National Disability Rights Network, Washington, D.C.**  
**Tom Masseau, Executive Director**  
**Disability Rights Arkansas**

Diane Smith Howard and Tom Masseau will discuss eligibility and rights protection for public school students with FASDs under the IDEA, the U.S. Constitution and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. The discussion will include both access to educational support services and behavior/discipline issues.

## **Dr. Stephen Greenspan, Ph.D.**

**Professor Emeritus, University of Connecticut**

### **Spurious Reasons why FASD Individuals are Denied DD Status**

Children and adults with FASD often have an uphill battle acquiring an ID or DD designation from experts and agencies, even when they are clearly deserved. Reasons include: racial and cultural bias, continued overreliance on IQ cut-offs, salience of other problems, and a general failure to appreciate or understand the nature and seriousness of FASD. Case examples from both criminal and civil proceedings are presented, and encouraging signs of change are discussed.

**Dr. Douglas Waite, MD, FAAP, Chief, Developmental Pediatrics,**  
**Bronx Care Health System,**  
**Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Icahn School**

**A Constellation of Adversity: Prenatal Exposure to Alcohol and the Developmental Challenges of Children in Foster Care**

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# Event Sponsors

**Alaska Center for FASD (State Affiliate of NOFAS)**  
**Alperstein, Simon, Farkas, Gillin & Scott, LLP**  
**American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU, Arkansas)**  
**Arkansas Access to Justice Commission**  
**Arkansas Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers**  
**Arkansas Department of Education–Division of Elementary and Secondary Education**  
**Arkansas Disability Coalition**  
**Arkansas Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities**  
**Arkansas Immigrant Defense–Arkansas**  
**Arkansas Medical Society**  
**Arkansas None for Nine (State Affiliate of NOFAS)**  
**Arkansas State Court Appointed Special Advocates Association (CASA)**  
**Arkansas Support Network–Supporting Choices and Opportunities for Individuals with Disabilities and their Families**  
**Spencer Munns, Partner, Bogin, Munns & Munns, Attorneys at Law ( Florida)**  
**Center for Arkansas Legal Services**  
**Central Arkansas Chapter of NABSW**  
**Child Welfare League of America (CWLA)**  
**Disability Rights Arkansas– Protection & Advocacy Service, Inc.**  
**Disability Rights Legal Center (Los Angeles, California)**  
**FASD Film Project–Join the Movement**  
**FASD–CAN (Care Action Network), New Zealand**  
**Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Communities**  
**Hispanic National Bar Association**  
**Law Offices of Angela L. Gilmartin and Associates (Woodland Hills, California)**  
**Law Offices of Philip Vondra and Associates ( Phelan, California)**  
**Legal Aid of Arkansas –Equal Access to Justice**  
**Thomas C. Sand, Partner, Miller, Nash, Graham & Dunn (Portland, Oregon)**  
**National Alliance of Sentencing Advocates and Mitigation Specialist (NLADA)**  
**National Association for Public Defense (NAPD)**  
**The National Bar Association Criminal Justice Committee**  
**The National Disability Rights Network (Washington, D.C.)**  
**National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (NOFAS, Washington, D.C.)**  
**North Dakota Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Center (University of North Dakota)**  
**Office of the Federal Public Defender for the Eastern District of Arkansas**  
**Partners for Inclusive Communities/University of Arkansas**  
**Pulaski County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)**  
**Pulaski County Medical Society & Exchange**

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**Q-Law Arkansas, Arkansas LGBT+ Bar**  
**Safe Babies Court Team with 0 to 3 (Arkansas)**  
**Kerry L. Steigerwalt, Firm Director, Sevens Legal, A.P.C. ( San Diego, California)**  
**Society for Black Neuropsychology**  
**Southern Center for Human Rights (Atlanta, Georgia)**  
**The Arc of Riverside County**  
**The Arkansas Nurse Practitioner Association**  
**The Arkansas Specialty Diagnostic FASD Resource Center (SDRC)**  
**The Centers for Youth and Families (Arkansas)**  
**The FASD Centre, Aotearoa, New Zealand**  
**The Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) Program**  
**The National Association of Black Social Workers, Inc. (NABSW)**  
**United Kingdom National FASD Specialist Behavior Management Service**  
**University of Arkansas Little Rock Chapter of NABSW**

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